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Programme planning

Proposed strategic framework for the period 2018-2019

Part two: biennial programme plan

Programme 5
Peaceful uses of outer space

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Overall orientation

5.1 The purpose of the programme is the promotion of international cooperation in the exploration and peaceful uses of outer space for economic, social and scientific development, in particular for the benefit of developing countries. The legislative authority and direction of the programme is drawn from relevant General Assembly resolutions and the decisions of the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space, which was established in 1959 by the Assembly in its resolution 1472 A (XIV).

5.2 The main responsibilities carried out by the Office for Outer Space Affairs under the programme are: provision of substantive secretariat services to the Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space and its subsidiary bodies; implementation of the United Nations Programme on Space Applications (resolutions 2601 A (XXIV) and 37/90); implementation of the programme of the United Nations Platform for Space-based Information for Disaster Management and Emergency Response (UN-SPIDER) (resolution 61/110); discharging of the responsibilities of the Secretary-General under United Nations treaties and principles on outer space and related resolutions (resolutions 1721 B (XVI), 2222 (XXI), 2345 (XXII), 3235 (XXIX), 47/68, 59/115 and 62/101); and coordination of space-related activities within the United Nations system (resolution 3234 (XXIX)). The Office also serves as the executive secretariat of the International Committee on Global Navigation Satellite Systems and its Providers' Forum (resolutions 61/111 and 64/86) and draws additional mandates from other resolutions of the General Assembly, such as on transparency and confidence-building measures in outer space activities (resolutions 68/50, 69/38 and 70/53).

5.3 The Programme on Space Applications is mandated to promote greater cooperation and build capacity in space science and technology. The priorities of the Programme include building indigenous capability in the areas of basic space sciences, basic space technology and human space technology and promoting the global navigation satellite system and integrated space technology applications in the areas of global health, disaster management, climate change, humanitarian assistance, environmental monitoring and natural resource management.

5.4 The UN-SPIDER programme was established to provide universal access to all types of space-based information and services relevant to disaster management to support the full disaster management cycle. UN-SPIDER serves as a gateway to space-based information for disaster management support, a bridge to connect the disaster management and space communities and a facilitator of capacity-building and institutional strengthening, in particular for developing countries.

5.5 The International Committee on Global Navigation Satellite Systems was established to promote cooperation, as appropriate, on matters of mutual interest related to civil satellite-based positioning, navigation, timing and value added services.

5.6 The General Assembly, through its resolutions under the item entitled "International cooperation in the peaceful uses of outer space", annually guides the work of the programme.

5.7 The Office is also responsible for assisting States in building or enhancing their capacity in space law and policy, strengthening efforts at the national, regional and global levels, including among entities of the United Nations system and

international space-related entities, to maximize the benefits of the use of space science and technology and related applications and promoting and raising awareness of the benefits of space to humankind, particularly through the commemoration of historical milestones and celebrations such as World Space Week and the International Day of Human Space Flight.

5.8 The fiftieth anniversary of the United Nations Conference on the Exploration and Peaceful Uses of Outer Space, to be held in 2018, is expected to provide further direction and guidance on the work of the programme.

Objective of the Organization: To further strengthen international cooperation among Member States and international entities in the conduct of space activities for peaceful purposes and the use of space science and technology and their applications towards achieving internationally agreed sustainable development goals

Expected accomplishments of the Secretariat	*Indicators of achievement*
(a) Greater understanding, acceptance and implementation by the international community of the legal regime established by the United Nations to govern outer space activities	Increased number of actions taken by States and intergovernmental organizations in order to implement or adhere to the United Nations treaties and principles on outer space and related resolutions, including ratifications and treaty obligation compliance
(b) Strengthened capacity of countries in using space science and technology and related applications, including global navigation satellite systems, particularly in areas related to sustainable development	(i) Increased number of countries taking action to build and enhance capacity in space science and technology and related applications
	(ii) Increased number of countries taking action to benefit from space-based positioning, navigation and timing services, including applications and research
(c) Increased coherence and synergy in the space-related work of entities of the United Nations system and of international, intergovernmental and non-governmental entities to advance human development and increase overall capacity development	Increased number of joint activities with United Nations system organizations and international, intergovernmental and non-governmental entities to strengthen capacity and use space science and technology and related applications
(d) Increased commitment of countries and relevant international and regional organizations in establishing and maintaining ways and means of accessing and developing the capacity to use all types of space-based information to support the full disaster management cycle	Number of actions by countries and relevant international and regional organizations incorporating space-based information in existing or draft disaster risk reduction strategies, disaster management policies or emergency response protocols

Strategy

5.9 The strategy includes:

(a) Promoting greater awareness of and strengthening the capacity to implement the international legal regime governing outer space activities, including

the development of national space legislation, and promoting increased capacity in and awareness of space law and policy and transparency and confidence-building measures in outer space activities;

(b) Strengthening the capacity, particularly of developing countries, in the use of space science and technology and related applications for sustainable development and increasing awareness of the benefits of space-based solutions in addressing societal needs;

(c) Using appropriate cooperation mechanisms and platforms for maximizing the use of positioning, navigation and timing services for sustainable development, including through the International Committee on Global Navigation Satellite Systems, which is a successful intergovernmental platform for cooperation, coordination and synergy;

(d) Assisting in consensus-building on cooperation in the peaceful uses of outer space among Governments and other stakeholders;

(e) Strengthening existing cooperative relationships and forging new partnerships to maximize the effective use of resources and identify new ways and means for making space capabilities more readily available to all users.

Legislative mandates

General Assembly resolutions

1472 A (XIV)	International cooperation in the peaceful uses of outer space
1721 B (XVI)	International cooperation in the peaceful uses of outer space
2222 (XXI)	Treaty on Principles Governing the Activities of States in the Exploration and Use of Outer Space, including the Moon and Other Celestial Bodies
2345 (XXII)	Agreement on the Rescue of Astronauts, the Return of Astronauts and the Return of Objects Launched into Outer Space
2453 (XXIII)	International cooperation in the peaceful uses of outer space
2601 A (XXIV)	International cooperation in the peaceful uses of outer space
3234 (XXIX)	International cooperation in the peaceful uses of outer space
3235 (XXIX)	Convention on Registration of Objects Launched into Outer Space
37/90	Second United Nations Conference on the Exploration and Peaceful Uses of Outer Space
47/68	Principles Relevant to the Use of Nuclear Power Sources in Outer Space
54/68	Third United Nations Conference on the Exploration and Peaceful Uses of Outer Space

59/2	Review of the implementation of the recommendations of the Third United Nations Conference on the Exploration and Peaceful Uses of Outer Space
59/115	Application of the concept of the "launching State"
61/110	United Nations Platform for Space-based Information for Disaster Management and Emergency Response
61/111	International cooperation in the peaceful uses of outer space
62/101	Recommendations on enhancing the practice of States and international intergovernmental organizations in registering space objects
64/86	International cooperation in the peaceful uses of outer space
65/271	International Day of Human Space Flight
68/50	Transparency and confidence-building measures in outer space activities
68/74	Recommendations on national legislation relevant to the peaceful exploration and use of outer space
69/38	Transparency and confidence-building measures in outer space activities
70/53	Transparency and confidence-building measures in outer space activities
70/82	International cooperation in the peaceful uses of outer space

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Item 131 of the preliminary list*
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Proposed strategic framework for the period 2018-2019

Part two: biennial programme plan

Programme 6
Legal affairs

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Overall orientation

6.1 The overall purpose of the programme is to support the accomplishment of the objectives of the United Nations by providing advice to the principal and subsidiary organs of the United Nations and by promoting among Member States a better understanding of and respect for the principles and norms of international law.

6.2 The mandate for the programme derives from the principal decision-making organs of the United Nations in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations and the Statute of the International Court of Justice.

6.3 The substantive responsibility for the programme is in the Office of Legal Affairs. It provides a unified central legal service for the Secretariat and the principal and subsidiary organs of the United Nations; supports the development of international justice; contributes to the progressive development and codification of international public and trade law and the promotion and strengthening of the international legal order for the seas and oceans; registers and publishes treaties; and performs the depositary functions of the Secretary-General.

6.4 The Office will provide legal advice and services, on request, to the decision-making organs of the United Nations and its Member States. It will aim to strengthen respect within the United Nations for the rule of law in international relations. As appropriate, attention will be given to incorporating a gender perspective into the work of the programme, including in the advice provided by the Office.

6.5 The Office will carry out its activities in cooperation with other departments and offices of the Secretariat, entities of the United Nations system and entities external to the United Nations, including treaty organizations; intergovernmental, interregional, regional and national organizations; non-governmental organizations; and academic communities. Such collaboration and cooperation include the following:

(a) Coordination of interdepartmental activities, liaison with United Nations organs dealing with legal matters, offices away from Headquarters and legal advisers or liaison officers assigned to field missions or other Secretariat units;

(b) Representation at and convening of meetings with legal advisers of the United Nations system and coordination of institutional arrangements for the specialized agencies and related organizations on matters of common concern;

(c) Representation of the Secretary-General and the Legal Counsel at meetings and conferences convened by the United Nations or sponsored by Governments, intergovernmental organizations and other international institutions.

Subprogramme 1
Provision of legal services to the United Nations system as a whole

Objective of the Organization: To enhance the respect for the rule of law and to support the development of international justice by the principal and subsidiary organs of the United Nations

Expected accomplishment of the Secretariat	*Indicator of achievement*
Effective functioning of the principal and subsidiary organs of the United Nations in accordance with international law, including the United Nations legal regime, and supporting international justice mechanisms, as mandated	A high percentage of legal instruments are finalized in respect of the activities of the United Nations

Strategy

6.6 The subprogramme is implemented by the Office of the Legal Counsel. The Office will assist principal and subsidiary organs of the United Nations through the provision of legal advice upon request, the preparation of reports and analyses and participation in meetings. With respect to a broad range of international matters, including matters of international peace and security, that includes advice on the interpretation of the Charter, resolutions, rules and regulations of the United Nations and treaties, and covers questions such as sanctions, commissions of inquiry, expert groups, privileges and immunities, relations with host countries and special political missions. Legal advice will be provided on questions of public international law, including international human rights, humanitarian and criminal law. Legal advice will also be provided to treaty bodies institutionally linked to the United Nations, upon request. Advice will be provided on constitutional, credentials and membership issues, as well as on the interpretation and application of the rules of procedure of principal and subsidiary organs. The Office will assist the Secretary-General in discharging his statutory responsibilities relating to the International Court of Justice. The Office will seek to ensure that legal advice provided by other legal offices and legal officers within the system is coordinated and consistent. The Office will work closely with principal and subsidiary organs of the United Nations to ensure that advice is clear, accurate and effective, and engage in necessary follow-up to support the implementation of resulting decisions, if requested.

6.7 Legal advice and services will be provided to United Nations peacekeeping operations on their mandates, protection of civilians strategies, status-of-forces and status-of-mission agreements, as well as on other instruments, including rules of engagement, standard operating procedures and directives on the use of force by military and police components. Assistance for peacemaking efforts of special political and peacekeeping missions will also be provided in the negotiation and preparation of legal instruments.

6.8 The subprogramme will support the development of international justice and contribute to efforts to eradicate impunity. The Office will work to ensure that, as subsidiary organs of the Security Council, the International Tribunal for the Former Yugoslavia (should it not have completed its work) and the International Residual Mechanism for Criminal Tribunals operate in their administrative activities in accordance with the Charter, regulations, rules and policies of the United Nations.

The Office will provide ongoing support to the Residual Special Court for Sierra Leone, the Extraordinary Chambers in the Courts of Cambodia and the Special Tribunal for Lebanon. It will advise the international and internationally assisted tribunals on legal issues arising from their relationships with States and host countries, and the principal and subsidiary organs of the Organization on legal aspects of the activities of and relations with the tribunals.

6.9 The Office will continue to carry out secretariat and representational functions for organs and bodies falling within its competence, including the Credentials Committee of the General Assembly, the Committee on Relations with the Host Country and, as appropriate, ad hoc working groups of the Security Council and the Sixth Committee.

6.10 The Secretary-General, as the custodian of the Headquarters Agreement, shall reinforce the implementation of the Agreement, in particular its article IV, section 11 and section 13 (a), governing the host country's legal obligation to grant entry visas to the officials of all Member States attending United Nations meetings, in accordance with paragraph 107 of the report of the Committee for Programme and Coordination, as endorsed by the General Assembly in its resolution 65/244.

Subprogramme 2
General legal services provided to United Nations organs and programmes

Objective of the Organization: To protect the legal interests of the Organization

Expected accomplishments of the Secretariat	*Indicators of achievement*
(a) Maximization of the protection of the legal interests of the Organization	The absence of instances in which, unless waived, the status and privileges and immunities of the Organization are not maintained
(b) Minimization of the legal liabilities of the Organization	The total amount of the Organization's legal liability for resolved claims is minimized compared with the total amount claimed against the Organization

Strategy

6.11 The subprogramme is implemented by the General Legal Division. Legal services are provided to the Organization, including offices away from Headquarters, the separately administered funds and programmes and field missions. Those services involve: (a) providing advice on the interpretation of certain Articles of the Charter, General Assembly resolutions and decisions, the regulations, rules and mandates of programmes and activities and other administrative issuances; (b) participating in meetings of the Secretariat and other bodies, including the Headquarters Committee on Contracts, the Visa Committee, the Property Survey Board, the Board of the United Nations Joint Staff Pension Fund and the Claims Board; and (c) legally representing the Secretary-General and the Organization, as appropriate, in various forums.

6.12 Legal services are provided for: (a) peacekeeping operations through commercial and other arrangements with Governments, other United Nations agencies, other international organizations and other field actors for transportation, rations, logistics, personnel and equipment; (b) the Organization's procurement activities and contracting requirements, including information and communications technology requirements, residual matters arising from the capital master plan and new matters related to the strategic heritage plan of the United Nations Office at Geneva; (c) institutional arrangements for technical assistance and development, including to the funds and programmes, for establishing cooperation programmes, and for developing new institutional modalities for operational activities and for cooperating with outside entities, including business and not-for-profit sectors, to achieve the objectives of the United Nations; (d) enhancing accountability measures, including through procedural advice and substantive action relating to internal sanctions and external enforcement action against United Nations officials and third parties responsible for fraud, corruption or other misconduct or crimes; referring appropriate cases to national investigative authorities and providing assistance to investigations and prosecutions; and by ensuring that the Organization's legal and restitutive interests resulting from such conduct are protected; (e) resolving disputes of a private law character involving the operations of the Organization, its organs or its separately administered funds and programmes; settling or otherwise amicably resolving such disputes; and representing the Organization in settlement negotiations and arbitral proceedings to meet the Organization's legal obligations to provide an appropriate mode of settlement; and (f) matters relating to developing the human resources management framework; minimizing legal liability arising from the implementation of the revised staff regulations and rules and the mobility and staff selection system; and reforming and updating the staff, financial and programme planning regulations and rules and other administrative issuances of the Organization.

6.13 The Division represents the Secretary-General before the United Nations Appeals Tribunal in cases involving both the Secretariat and the separately administered funds and programmes. It also provides legal services to the offices representing the Secretary-General before the United Nations Dispute Tribunal by identifying trends in the judgements of the Dispute Tribunal, coordinating legal strategies for such representation and formulating consistent legal arguments. In coordination with the Office of the Legal Counsel, the Division liaises with appropriate host Government authorities and other host countries to ensure that the international intergovernmental status of the Organization and its related privileges and immunities are maintained.

Subprogramme 3
Progressive development and codification of international law

Objective of the Organization: Progressive development and codification of international law

Expected accomplishments of the Secretariat	*Indicators of achievement*
(a) Progress in the formulation of legal instruments	Percentage of legal instruments under preparation that advanced to a higher level of progress
(b) Wider appreciation and understanding of international law	(i) High level of satisfaction rating from the participants responding to the survey on international law training activities
	(ii) Increasing number of unique end-users of legal publications, documents and information disseminated in hardcopy and online
	(iii) Improved regional balance among the regional courses in international law

Strategy

6.14 Substantive responsibility for the implementation of the subprogramme is vested in the Codification Division. The types of activities to be undertaken will include research on topics of international law, preparation of background documents, analytical studies and draft reports of a substantive nature for the bodies concerned, legal advice and assistance in the conduct of proceedings and in the drafting of legal instruments, resolutions and decisions.

6.15 Substantive support will be provided to the Sixth Committee of the General Assembly and its working groups in its consideration of relevant instruments or, as the case may be, use by States of the procedures envisaged by the relevant resolutions of the Assembly. Substantive support will also be provided to special and ad hoc committees, as well as to the International Law Commission and its Special Rapporteurs.

6.16 The United Nations Programme of Assistance in the Teaching, Study, Dissemination and Wider Appreciation of International Law will be implemented to promote a better knowledge of international law as a means of strengthening international peace and security and promoting friendly relations among States through: (a) the preparation of major legal publications, such as the *United Nations Juridical Yearbook*; the *United Nations Legislative Series*; the *Reports of International Arbitral Awards*; the *Summaries of Judgments, Advisory Opinions and Orders of the International Court of Justice*; the *Work of the International Law Commission*; proceedings of codification conferences; ad hoc publications on public international law; and study materials for training courses; as well as the coordination of the preparation of the *Repertory of Practice of United Nations Organs*; and the provision of advice on the *Yearbook of the International Law Commission*; (b) the planning, organizing and conducting of international law training courses and seminars, including the International Law Fellowship

Programme and the Regional Courses in International Law; (c) the dissemination of legal publications and information in hard copy to facilitate legal research, particularly in developing countries, supplemented by electronic dissemination thereof through websites; and (d) the further development of the Audiovisual Library of International Law as a global online training and research facility, including the Lecture Series, the Historic Archives and the Research Library.

Subprogramme 4
Law of the sea and ocean affairs

Objective of the Organization: To promote and strengthen the law of the sea for the peaceful use of the oceans and sustainable development

Expected accomplishments of the Secretariat	*Indicators of achievement*
(a) Increased participation of States in, and effective implementation and application of, the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea and the related implementing agreements	(i) Increased number of States parties to the Convention and its implementing agreements (ii) Increased number of deposits of charts and lists of coordinates under the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea (iii) Increased number of submissions actively considered by the Commission on the Limits of the Continental Shelf
(b) Enhanced cooperation and coordination among stakeholders in relation to ocean and coastal issues	(i) Increased number of joint activities carried out by the Division for Ocean Affairs and the Law of the Sea, with United Nations system organizations and other bodies, including through UN-Oceans (ii) Increased number of cooperative activities, supported by the Division for Ocean Affairs and the Law of the Sea, between and among States and other stakeholders, including those aimed at contributing to the sustainable development of the oceans and seas, such as the global integrated marine assessment, the conservation and sustainable use of marine living resources, marine biodiversity in areas beyond national jurisdiction and the oceans-related goals of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development
(c) Enhanced understanding of, and/or familiarity with, the law of the sea and related legislative and policy frameworks	Increased percentage of feedback from States and other entities indicating satisfaction with technical assistance and capacity-development activities

Strategy

6.17 The subprogramme is implemented by the Division for Ocean Affairs and the Law of the Sea.

6.18 The Division will continue to perform the functions of the Secretary-General under the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea and the related agreements, as well as relevant General Assembly resolutions. The Division will provide information, analysis and advice to States, international organizations and other stakeholders on the uniform and consistent application of the provisions of the Convention and the related agreements. States will also be assisted in identifying emerging issues of ocean affairs to be addressed within the framework of the Convention and the related agreements.

6.19 The Division will continue to assist the Commission on the Limits of the Continental Shelf in its consideration of submissions, and to advise States, in particular developing States, on the preparation of those submissions and of the proceedings before the Commission. It will also continue to provide enhanced support to the Regular Process for Global Reporting and Assessment of the State of the Marine Environment, including Socioeconomic Aspects, as its secretariat. In addition, the Division will continue to engage in activities aimed at enhancing the peaceful use and sustainable development of oceans and seas, including the conservation and sustainable use of both marine living resources and marine biodiversity of areas beyond national jurisdiction, and the implementation of the oceans-related goals of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

6.20 The Division will continue to assist States in developing and strengthening the capabilities required for the effective exercise of their rights and the fulfilment of their obligations under the Convention and related agreements, including through fellowship programmes, other capacity-building activities and the management of trust funds.

6.21 The Division will continue to facilitate the annual consideration of developments related to the law of the sea and ocean affairs and, inter alia, to provide substantive, administrative and technical support to: (a) the Meeting of States Parties to the Convention; (b) meetings on the United Nations Fish Stocks Agreement; (c) the General Assembly, including through reports, and meetings on its resolutions on oceans and the law of the sea and on sustainable fisheries; (d) the United Nations Open-ended Informal Consultative Process on Oceans and the Law of the Sea; (e) meetings relating to the conservation and sustainable use of marine biological diversity beyond areas of national jurisdiction; (f) meetings on the Regular Process; and (g) other mandated meetings.

6.22 The Division will contribute to the work of United Nations and non-United Nations bodies dealing with oceans-related issues. As focal point for UN-Oceans, the Division will facilitate inter-agency cooperation and coordination.

Subprogramme 5
Progressive harmonization, modernization and unification of the law of international trade

Objective of the Organization: Progressive improvement, harmonization, understanding, knowledge, interpretation and application of international trade law and coordination of the work of international organizations active in that field

Expected accomplishments of the Secretariat	*Indicators of achievement*
(a) Effective progress towards the modernization of trade law and practices and reduction of legal uncertainties and obstacles posed by inadequate and disparate laws or conflicting interpretation and application of laws	(i) Increased number of legislative decisions (ratifications and national enactments) based on texts of the United Nations Commission on International Trade Law (UNCITRAL)
	(ii) Increased number of judicial and arbitral decisions based on UNCITRAL texts
(b) Increased awareness and understanding of international trade law issues and reliance on UNCITRAL standards	(i) Increased number of publications or databases referring to the work and mentioning texts of UNCITRAL
	(ii) Increased number of visitors to the UNCITRAL website
(c) Improved coordination and cooperation among international organizations active in the field of international trade law	Increased number of joint activities that incorporate reference to UNCITRAL trade law standards
(d) Improved functioning of UNCITRAL	Increased responsiveness of Member States and other bodies to the survey or other indication of their satisfaction with the services provided

Strategy

6.23 Substantive responsibility for the subprogramme is vested in the International Trade Law Division.

6.24 The United Nations Commission on International Trade Law, codification conferences and related intergovernmental working groups will receive substantive support. Services to UNCITRAL will include research on international trade law, the preparation of studies and policy papers and legal advice and assistance in the conduct of intergovernmental negotiations and in the drafting of decisions, amendments and proposals. The Division will assist the Commission in drafting for Governments universally acceptable legislative and non-legislative texts (treaties, model laws, legislative guides, recommendations) in areas where the Commission determines that modernization or harmonization is desirable and feasible. To that effect, a specialized library will be maintained.

6.25 Legislative activity, while most important as the basis for other work, cannot alone achieve the goal of harmonization, namely: the adoption and use of UNCITRAL standards in practice. The UNCITRAL secretariat remains as it was in the 1970s, when no or very few UNCITRAL standards existed. In contrast, some

30 UNCITRAL legal standards are currently in need of promotion. The consequence is that non-legislative activities are underserved in terms of recognition, time and resources and are ultimately affected, and the implementation of UNCITRAL texts still needs to be improved. The strategy will be to increase involvement of the Commission, the working groups and the secretariat beyond legislative drafting and into technical assistance and cooperation/coordination — a holistic approach involving the full life cycle of an UNCITRAL text. As a practical consequence, working group and Commission sessions should consider legislative development and technical assistance activities (both involving coordination and cooperation).

6.26 In view of the above approach, the growing need for commercial law reform in the various areas of the Commission's work, and the increasing demand for legislative technical assistance (in particular in developing countries and countries with economies in transition), the Division will focus on more active promotion of UNCITRAL texts, technical assistance for legislative work and training. Assistance will be based on requests from States and regional organizations and take the form of briefings to officials, training and direct assistance in drafting instruments enacting uniform law texts, supported by commentaries, guides to enactment and information notes prepared by the Division. It will assist professional associations and academic institutions (especially in developing countries and countries with economies in transition) in promoting modern business practices and teaching international trade law. Effective and sustainable delivery of those activities will require their integration into strengthened and coordinated United Nations rule of law activities, adequate resources and increased partnerships with States and non-governmental organizations, including the private sector. The Division will continue to prioritize such activities, and to seek external resources and partners — including UNCITRAL members and observers — to service those that cannot be serviced internally. Priorities will be set in terms of topics rather than working groups (bearing in mind the need to also promote standards not linked with a currently active working group). Outreach to Member States through UNCITRAL regional offices will be further explored.

6.27 The Division will pursue, in cooperation with regional organizations, harmonization on the basis of universal texts of the Commission, drafting legislative models for use by international and national organizations when developing standard texts for use by their members in modernizing trade legislation. Attention will be given to issues arising from the increasing importance of electronic commerce in international trade. The UNCITRAL website will be maintained in all six official United Nations languages and its content expanded.

6.28 Regional economic integration organizations, and those for particular industrial sectors, are increasingly formulating rules and standards for international trade. The Division will monitor and analyse their work to assist the Commission, as the core legal body within the United Nations system in the field of international trade law, in its mandate to coordinate legal activities in that field. The aim is to avoid duplication of effort and promote efficiency, consistency and coherence in the modernization and harmonization of the law.

6.29 Users of the Commission's legal texts will receive information on judicial and arbitral application and interpretation thereof, in all official United Nations languages, in the form of abstracts of court decisions and arbitral awards. The Division will facilitate the use of uniform law by: (a) providing updated digests of

case law interpreting UNCITRAL texts; and (b) disseminating information on the implementation of the Convention on the Recognition and Enforcement of Foreign Arbitral Awards and promoting its uniform interpretation. Particular attention will be paid to the growing need for uniform interpretation of international legal standards, resulting from their increasing use in numerous jurisdictions. The Division will continue to explore means of responding to that demand through its efforts to support harmonization of international trade law, both in its enactment and in its everyday use by courts and tribunals. Such a response will require a robust reporting mechanism.

Subprogramme 6
Custody, registration and publication of treaties

Objective of the Organization: Wider awareness of and participation in treaties concluded under the auspices of the United Nations and deposited with the Secretary-General, as well as registration and publication of treaties under Article 102 of the Charter, and actions relating to those treaties

Expected accomplishments of the Secretariat	*Indicators of achievement*
(a) Improved access to treaties deposited with the Secretary-General and related treaty actions, including information on their status, and to treaties and related treaty actions submitted for registration and publication with the Secretariat	(i) Actions relating to treaties to be deposited with the Secretary-General are processed and made available online in a timely manner
	(ii) Treaties and actions are registered and related information made available online in a timely manner
	(iii) Increased number of page views on the Treaty Section website
(b) Ongoing State participation in the international treaty framework	Continuous receipt of treaties and actions for deposit with the Secretary-General and for registration
(c) Enhanced familiarity with and understanding by Member States of the technical and legal aspects of participating in the multilateral treaty framework and registering treaties	(i) Continuous requests for depositary and registration-related information and advice from States, United Nations offices, specialized agencies and treaty bodies
	(ii) Increased percentage of participants who indicate their satisfaction with the training on treaty law and practice

Strategy

6.30 Substantive responsibility for the implementation of the subprogramme is vested in the Treaty Section. The Section will undertake the depositary functions of the Secretary-General for over 560 multilateral treaties, and the registration and publication of approximately 2,000 treaties and treaty actions per year under Article 102 of the Charter; provide timely and accurate information relating to deposited treaties and registered treaties and related actions; provide assistance and

advice to Member States, specialized agencies, United Nations offices, treaty bodies and other entities on treaty law, including final clauses of treaties, the depositary practice, and the registration of treaties; and prepare and revise related publications.

6.31 The Treaty Section will continue its computerization programme to respond most effectively to the needs of Member States, in particular with respect to the comprehensive electronic database containing up-to-date depositary and registration information; the electronic dissemination of treaty-related information, including online access; and the enhancement of the database/workflow system; and will continue to update, enhance and develop the online United Nations Treaty Collection. In that regard, the Treaty Section will offer user access to new treaty reporting tools and make its website mobile-friendly.

6.32 The Section will promote wider participation in the multilateral treaty framework through treaty events and assistance to States on technical and legal aspects relating to participation in treaties deposited with the Secretary-General and registration of treaties, including through training seminars.

Legislative mandates

Subprogramme 1
Provision of legal services to the United Nations system as a whole

Provisions of the Charter of the United Nations

Article 104 of the Charter of the United Nations

Article 105 of the Charter of the United Nations

General Assembly resolutions

13 (I)	Organization of the Secretariat [Establishment of a Legal Department]
22 (I)	Privileges and Immunities of the United Nations
2819 (XXVI)	Security of missions accredited to the United Nations and safety of their personnel and establishment of the Committee on Relations with the Host Country

Subprogramme 2
General legal services provided to United Nations organs and programmes

Provisions of the Charter of the United Nations

Article 104 of the Charter of the United Nations

Article 105 of the Charter of the United Nations

General Assembly resolutions

13 (I)	Organization of the Secretariat [Establishment of a Legal Department]
22 (I)	Privileges and Immunities of the United Nations
70/112	Administration of justice at the United Nations

Subprogramme 3
Progressive development and codification of international law

Provisions of the Charter of the United Nations

Article 13 of the Charter of the United Nations

General Assembly resolutions

174 (II)	Establishment of an International Law Commission
487 (V)	Ways and means for making the evidence of customary international law more readily available
987 (X)	Publication of the documents of the International Law Commission
3006 (XXVII)	*United Nations Juridical Yearbook*
68/104	Responsibility of States for internationally wrongful acts
68/113	Diplomatic protection
68/114	Consideration of prevention of transboundary harm from hazardous activities and allocation of loss in the case of such harm
68/118	The law of transboundary aquifers
68/254	Administration of justice at the United Nations
69/120	Status of the Protocols Additional to the Geneva Convention of 1949 and relating to the protection of victims of armed conflicts
69/121	Consideration of effective measures to enhance the protection, security and safety of diplomatic and consular missions and representatives
69/125	Effects of armed conflicts on treaties
69/126	Responsibility of international organizations
70/114	Criminal accountability of United Nations officials and experts on mission
70/116	United Nations Programme of Assistance in the Teaching, Study, Dissemination and Wider Appreciation of International Law
70/117	Report of the Special Committee on the Charter of the United Nations and on the Strengthening of the Role of the Organization
70/118	The rule of law at the national and international levels
70/119	The scope and application of the principle of universal jurisdiction
70/120	Measures to eliminate international terrorism
70/236	Report of the International Law Commission on the work of its sixty-seventh session

Subprogramme 4
Law of the sea and ocean affairs

United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea

Articles 16 (2), 47 (9), 63 (2), 64, 75 (2), 76 (9), 84 (2), 116-119, 287 (8), 298 (6), 312, 313 (1), 319 (1) and 319 (2); articles 2 (2), 2 (5) and 6 (3) of annex II; articles 2 and 3 (e) of annex V; article 4 (4) of annex VI; article 2 (1) of annex VII; and article 3 (e) of annex VIII

United Nations Fish Stocks Agreement

Articles 26 (1) and 36

General Assembly resolutions that have been adopted annually on the law of the sea and sustainable fisheries, of which the most recent are:

70/75	Sustainable fisheries, including through the 1995 Agreement for the Implementation of the Provisions of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea of 10 December 1982 relating to the Conservation and Management of Straddling Fish Stocks and Highly Migratory Fish Stocks, and related instruments
70/235	Oceans and the law of the sea

Subprogramme 5
Progressive harmonization, modernization and unification of the law of international trade

General Assembly resolution

2205 (XXI)	Establishment of the United Nations Commission on International Trade Law

General Assembly resolutions that have been adopted on the work of the United Nations Commission on International Trade Law, of which the most recent is:

70/115	Report of the United Nations Commission on International Trade Law on the work of its forty-eighth session

Subprogramme 6
Custody, registration and publication of treaties

Provisions of the Charter of the United Nations

Article 102 of the Charter of the United Nations

General Assembly resolutions

23 (I)	Registration of treaties and international agreements
24 (I)	Transfer of certain functions, activities and assets of the League of Nations

97 (I)	Registration and publication of treaties and international agreements: regulations to give effect to Article 102 of the Charter of the United Nations
364 (IV)	Registration and publication of treaties and international agreements
482 (V)	Registration and publication of treaties and international agreements
33/141	Registration and publication of treaties and international agreements pursuant to Article 102 of the Charter of the United Nations
51/158	Electronic treaty database
54/28	United Nations Decade of International Law
68/110	United Nations Programme of Assistance in the Teaching, Study, Dissemination and Wider Appreciation of International Law
70/118	The rule of law at the national and international levels